

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application : NOBUKI MATSUI, ET AL.
Application No. :
Filed : Herewith
Confirmation No. :
For : DISK DRIVE
Examiner :
Attorney's Docket : AK-430XX

TC Art Unit:

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope
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22313-1450 on _____.

By: _____
Charles L. Gagnebin III
Registration No. 25,467
Attorney for Applicant(s)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is desired to cite for the record in this application the enclosed references listed on the attached copy of PTO Form #1449. The paragraph(s) marked below are applicable to this Information Disclosure Statement.

(1) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1) and (2), the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above identified national application or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 of the above identified application. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

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[] (2) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), applicant(s) believes the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

[] (3) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4), applicant(s) believes the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

[] (4) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance and is accompanied by:

[] a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e); or

[] the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(d)

[] (5) Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(d), applicant(s) hereby petitions the Commissioner to consider the attached Information Disclosure Statement which is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee. This petition is accompanied by a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) and the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

[] (6) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)

[] (7) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of

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information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

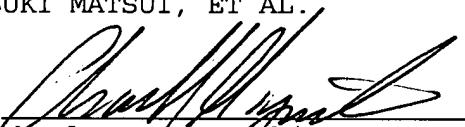
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not a representation by the undersigned as to personal knowledge of the contents of every word or phrase of the material enclosed or that reliance on other suitably trained professionals has not been made.

If a search report of a searching agency is enclosed identifying the nature of the relevance of each document, such a designation is deemed to satisfy 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) even if in a foreign language because the codes are the same in all languages. However, applicant(s) does not necessarily adopt the position reflected by that report.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0804. Triplicate copies of this letter are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

NOBUKI MATSUI, ET AL.

By: 
Charles L. Gagnebin III
Registration No. 25,467
Attorney for Applicant(s)

WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN,
GAGNEBIN & LEBOVICI LLP
Ten Post Office Square
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
Telephone: (617) 542-2290
Telecopier: (617) 451-0313

Date: 10-30-3

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Enclosure

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| (REV. 05/03) | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | ATTY. DOCKET NO. | APPLICATION NO. |
| | | AK-430XX | |
| | | APPLICANT: Nobuki Matsui, et al. | |
| | | FILING DATE Herewith | TC ART UNIT |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | PUBLICATION/ ISSUE DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------|-------|----------|-------------|
| | US | | | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | YES | NO |
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| | 08-171787 – Abstract | 7/2/1996 | Japan | | | | X | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.